

From: dry <kmondry2022@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, October 3, 2022 12:58 PM
To: Park Commission <pacommission@cityofmadison.com>
Subject: Esther beach dog status request

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

Hello,

I Kaya Mondry along with my mother Annette Mondry, Victor Mondry, Jordan mondry. My grandmother, Hedy Zacher also votes to have it a dog friendly beach. We vote to have our park dog friendly. We have dogs and they love going to the beach. We have seen tons of people also with dogs going to the beach. We pay taxes for our park and should have the right to bring our dogs to enjoy the park. We should not have to worry about being fined for taking our dogs to enjoy the day and the beach.

Thank you!

Kaya

From: Saeed Alhadhrami <Saeed.M1999@live.com>
Sent: Monday, October 3, 2022 1:28 PM
To: Park Commission <pacommission@cityofmadison.com>
Subject: Esther Beach to Dog Friendly

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Hello,

I Saeed vote to have Esther beach dog friendly. I know many people who would love to take their dogs to the park as I do. Dogs should be able to enjoy the park as well!

Best,
Saeed Alhadhrami

From: Susan Thomson <susanthomson@actioncoach.com>
Sent: Monday, October 3, 2022 8:09 PM
To: Park Commission <pacommission@cityofmadison.com>
Cc: Susan Thomson <susanthomson@actioncoach.com>
Subject: Dog Status Request - Esther Beach Park

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Dear Colleagues,

I live on Waunona Way - since 1994 - and am strongly in favor of designating Esther Beach Park as a "dog friendly" park. This is a dog friendly neighborhood and I was surprised to see a "dog free" sign at the park (I thought it was a fake).

Best regards,

Susan Thomson
2828 Waunona Way, Madison, WI 53713

From: Jess Thompson <jessthompson77@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 5, 2022 12:25 PM
To: Park Commission <pacommission@cityofmadison.com>
Subject: Esther Beach Park dog policy

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

I'd like to register my support for changing Esther Beach Park to a dog friendly park. I live near the park and frequently use the canoe launch. My dog likes to come along for canoe rides but, currently, I can't bring him to the park where I put in my canoe.

Thanks,
Jessica Thompson

2703 Frazier Ave, Madison, WI 53713

From: jim volk <jvolk47@hotmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, October 6, 2022 7:26 AM
To: Park Commission <pacommission@cityofmadison.com>
Subject: Esther beach park

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With many dog friendly areas around the south/east madison area available, I do not think we need dogs at any beaches/parks where people will be playing and swimming.

From: Muriel Nagle <murielnagle@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, October 6, 2022 9:26 PM
To: Park Commission <pacommission@cityofmadison.com>
Subject: Comments on Esther Beach Dog Status Request

Hello,

I am writing in response to the mailing I received today about the request you are considering to change the status of Esther Beach from a "dog free" to "dog friendly" park. I would like to express my support for the status change request.

I am a neighborhood resident, just a few houses down from the park. I have lived here for over 27 years. I can see the beach from my house and from the lake. I walk, run, kayak, dog-walk or bicycle by this park most days. I have a pretty good sense of the activities at the beach. I am also a dog owner. My dog is licensed, and I purchase all possible park permits, including dog permits. I am happy to support the cause of having excellent parks infrastructure in our city, for people and pets alike, with appropriate guidelines.

I would like to see Esther Beach Park's status changed to "dog friendly", with some appropriate and clearly posted park rules to go along with the status change. I am confident that many neighbors and visitors will appreciate the chance to walk into the park with their dogs to enjoy one of the best views in the city.

I would also like to advocate for having a designated area away from the swimming beach, perhaps nearer to the paddle craft launch area, or to the southwest of the park building, where people could let dogs go into the lake for a swim. I am fortunate to live on the lake, but I think many dog owners who do not might appreciate a chance to let their dogs cool off on summer walks.

I understand that dogs in this park would have to be under control of the people they come with for this to work. I think keeping dogs off the sand beach area during summer is reasonable, and the usual rules of cleaning up after your dog, and keeping your dog away from picnic areas would need to apply.

I'm sure you and parks colleagues have tried to think of all the ways to encourage park users to exercise good judgment, but some thoughts might be: Hours that pets are allowed could be restricted on summer weekends, perhaps to earlier and later than the hours of peak beach usage. Hours might be freed up a bit after the swim buoys are removed for the season in September. As an aside, I wonder if the presence of a few more dogs from time to time might discourage the geese from spending as much time at the park as they do now? I don't mind them, but for people letting kids play in the grass, the droppings density is an issue.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide thoughts on the possible park status change, and for all your work for the good of us all.

Muriel Nagle
2700 Waunona Way, Madison

(I hope that sometime in the future, the status of dog-friendly or dog-free for Olin Turville Park can also be discussed. I would also support a "dog-friendly" status for parts of that park, as well).

From: kclarkbahr (null) <kclarkbahr@aol.com>
Sent: Friday, October 7, 2022 5:44 PM
To: Park Commission <pacommission@cityofmadison.com>
Subject: Esther Beach dog status

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

To: Board of Park Commisioners

I have lived in the Esther Beach neighborhood for over 30 years and have had dogs that whole time. Until 2 years ago, I was unaware that leashed dogs were NOT allowed at Esther Beach. I am in favor of allowing leashed dogs at any park as long as their owners clean up after them. Many families avoid enjoying our beautiful parks because part of their families (their dogs) can't come along. Responsible dog owners should not be penalized for those few who don't have control of or clean up after their pets.

Karen Clark

From: Amy Steuer <steueramy@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 11, 2022 3:37 PM
To: Park Commission <pacommission@cityofmadison.com>
Subject: Esther Beach Park - Dog Friendly

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

I received a notice that on Nov9, the BPC will consider changing Esther Beach to a dog friendly park. I live kitty corner to Esther Beach and while I do not have a dog I am IN FAVOR of making Esther Beach dog friendly. While I am quite certain most folks would be attentive and in compliance with picking up after their dogs even if a few do not comply - it will certainly be better than the amount of goose poop that is currently there. Please make Esther Beach Dog friendly!

Amy Steuer
2711 Waunona Way

From: Lorelei Elding <lolelei411@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 25, 2022 10:17 PM
To: Park Commission <pacommission@cityofmadison.com>
Subject: Dogs in Parks

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

I vote in favor of dogs in our parks. I'm not sure of the percentage of dog owners in our neighborhood, but I would say it's at least 35%. Maybe higher since the pandemic. I have lived in this neighborhood since 1994 and frequent Esther Beach weekly. I have not seen any negative effects of dogs being allowed at the beach. If anything they help keep the geese population down.

Please reconsider opening the parks to dogs
Most sincerely,
Lorelei Elding

From: Olga Matsyuk <matsyuk1@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, October 31, 2022 2:58 PM
To: Park Commission <pacommission@cityofmadison.com>
Subject: Esther Beach Park Dog Status Request

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Hello -

We live about a block away from Esther Beach (Quinn Cir) and feel very strong about the proposed change in status to a "dog friendly park". It has been disappointing to see that folks are unable to enjoy the park today if they have a dog with them - it has a beautiful view, a great lawn for a picnic, updated restrooms and other amenities.

Because of this, we strongly support a change in status to allow licensed, leashed dogs to be in the park with their owners.

We have a lot of local families that have dogs and walk their dogs along Waunona - it would be great if they were all able to stop in and enjoy such a wonderful park in this neighborhood.

Thank you - *Olga*.

From: Eric Shusta <eshusta@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, November 3, 2022 10:53 AM
To: Park Commission <pacommission@cityofmadison.com>
Subject: Dog Status Request- Esther Beach Park

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

To Whom it May Concern,

I am submitting these comments in response to a recent notification we received that Esther Beach park could be changed from "dog free" to "dog friendly". I would like to note a few factors that lead me to oppose this change.

1. While Esther beach park is currently dog free and has been since we moved into the neighborhood years ago, there are often dogs both on and off leashes in the park. A change to "dog friendly" will only exacerbate this issue.
2. Dogs often are taken off their leash, run throughout the park, the beach, neighboring yards and into the water. This is not and should not be allowed at a public beach. Again, even with the no dog rules currently, dogs are often off the leash.
3. Many children attend this beach and play in the sand- dogs should not be something that they have to worry about. Even when dogs are "friendly", they can scare children and adults.
4. Many children have allergies to dogs, and despite being on leashes, a simple lick from a friendly dog can cause respiratory problems (as it does for our son) that require an inhaler.

It is unclear what is driving the change for a small neighborhood park with a beach and swimming area to need to become dog friendly. There are myriad reasons why the park should remain dog free. As I mentioned above, despite it being dog free there are often dogs in the park. The fear is if the rules change to "dog friendly" it becomes more of a dog park than a beach user's park.

Thank you for your time,
A concerned member of the neighborhood

From: Judy Thompson <jjthogre@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, November 3, 2022 4:17 PM
To: Park Commission <pacommission@cityofmadison.com>
Subject: Esther Beach Park

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

I would like to submit my comment on Esther Beach Park.

I would like to see it removed from being listed as a "Dog Free Park" to 'DOG FRIENDLY'

It is such a beautiful park/view, why can't dog owners enjoy it along with everyone else.

Thank You

Judy Thompson

From: Delphine Skinner <theskinners@charter.net>
Sent: Friday, November 4, 2022 3:56 AM
To: Park Commission <pacommission@cityofmadison.com>
Subject: Dog Status Request at Esther Beach Park

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

To: City of Madison Board of Park Commissioners

Hi,

We hope you will approve changing Esther Beach Park to a "Dog Friendly" park.

For the past 43 years we have lived one block away from Esther Beach Park. What we've always wanted to do is to be able to sit on the lawn in the park with our leashed dog by our side and enjoy the serenity of looking at the lake from a distance and then get back up and go back home. We hope you will make our dream happen.

We are proud that over the years Madison has turned into a dog friendly town. It's one of the main reasons why we continue living here.

Thank you for your consideration.

John & Delphine Skinner
2605 Waunona Way
Madison, WI 53713

From: Shelly Cook <shellymcook@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, November 4, 2022 2:54 PM
To: Park Commission <pacommission@cityofmadison.com>
Subject: Dog Status Request- Esther Beach Park

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

I am writing this email in response to the dog status at Ester Beach Park.

Ester Beach is a small space, has a small playground and a small beach. I do not feel comfortable with dogs on a playground or on a beach where children are playing. The size of this park limits the ability to safely keep those areas separate. The beach area is a highlight of this park and unfortunately I have seen many people take their dog/dogs off of their leashes to play in the water. Once off of the leash, the dogs can run to other places without their owner's control.

A few years ago, I was bitten by a small dog in Waunona Park. The owner was able to grab the dog and quickly left the park without saying anything. I love the parks in Madison. I frequently use Ester Beach park and prefer it to stay a dog free park. There are many other larger parks in the Madison area dog owners can use including the dedicated dog parks at Quann Park and Brittingham Park within a few miles of the neighborhood. Please keep Ester Beach Park a dog free park.

Thank you for your time,
A Concerned Neighbor
